

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for offering shares of stock of a privately-held company to the public as part of an initial public offering, comprising:

offering a first portion of the shares of the stock of the initial public offering to public investors at a first price; and

offering a second portion of the shares of the initial public offering to public investors at a second price after a first trading interval of a first predetermined and predisclosed time period after the offering of the first portion, wherein the first portion of the shares and the second portion of the shares are owned by the privately-held company and wherein a pricing procedure for the first and second portions of the shares is predetermined and predisclosed prior to the first offering.

7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein offering the first portion of shares of the stock at a first price includes offering the first portion of the shares to a public investor via a computer network.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein offering the second portion of the shares at a second price includes offering the second portion of the shares to a public investor via a computer network.

15. (Twice Amended) A method for offering shares of stock of a privately-held company to the public as part of an initial public offering, comprising: